



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Richland, Washington 99352

0058194

October 31, 2002

Mr. Kevin Leary  
Project Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
Box 550, A6-38  
Richland, WA 99352

RECEIVED  
NOV 05 2002  
EDMC

RE: U-Plant Canyon Disposition Initiative

Dear Mr. Leary:

The topic of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs) and, specifically, land disposal restrictions (LDRs) has been of concern lately with regard to the contamination within the U-Plant and particularly material that remains in vessels within the U-Plant. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have discussed the issue of LDRs at U-Plant. We believe that the parties should consider a site-specific treatability variance for those materials for which grouting is not the accepted method of treatment.

The treatability variance would be based on technical information provided by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and its contractor and would be written into the Record of Decision. We believe that much of the technical information already exists. As EPA and Ecology project managers, we wish to meet with you to discuss details of a possible treatability variance. Treatability variances have been applied successfully in a number of cases across the DOE/Department of Defense complex.

Please contact Rick (509 736-3007) or Craig (509 376-8665) to discuss this further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Craig Cameron  
EPA Project Manager

Rick Bond  
Ecology Project Manager

cc Matt Mills, Ecology  
Lloyd Zinsler, Fluor Hanford  
Fred Ruck, III, Fluor Hanford  
Dave Bartus, EPA  
Administrative Record: U-Plant Canyon Disposition Initiative